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Via ECFS
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

I live in Fremont, CA, in the San Francisco Bay Area, mere miles from Silicon Valley, and yet the fastest download Internet service available from AT&T is their basic 1.5Mbps service. Their combined internet and phone service is currently listed at \$62/month for 24 months with a 1-year agreement, which is before regulatory fees and taxes are added. AT&T's U-verse offering with higher data speeds is not offered to my home or in my community. How can my choices be so limited in the 4th most populous city in the San Francisco Bay Area?

As a result, I have not been a subscriber of AT&T since 2012 when I realized that Sonic provided better service at a lower rate than AT&T. Since Sonic is using AT&T's infrastructure, my data rate from Sonic is still limited to under 5 Mbps (typically closer to 3.5 Mbps), but with Sonic I at least have the option of adding a 2nd bonded data line to increase that to 10 Mbps. AT&T provides no such option. Also, my most recent bill from Sonic (for unlimited internet and phone service) was for just under \$60 for the month, including all fees and taxes.

The limited data speeds available at my home limit the types of services we subscribe to and products we buy. We do not subscribe to Netflix, not because we wouldn't like to, but because our download rate is so slow that viewing a movie from Netflix in high definition is not an option. Today's gaming consoles expect that games will be downloaded, but that is highly impractical when it takes days to download a game at my current data rate. Using videos over the Internet for entertainment or to supplement the home school education we provide our son is not really an option when the quality of the video has to be downgraded to a lower resolution or we must wait for the video to buffer every few minutes to view it at a modern resolution.

I have not found any company which provides fiber Internet service to our home. I hope that one day Sonic will do so, but I understand how they are choosing where to deploy that and why that has not included my community. Given that AT&T has deployed its U-verse service throughout the SF Bay Area but not yet to my community after many years, I do not expect them to ever do so.

The only option I have for broadband service at a reasonable modern data rate is with Comcast/Xfinity. As much as I dread making that switch (I was an unhappy Comcast customer

many years ago at a different location), I am seriously considering signing up with them simply because they are the only option for faster than 10 Mbps service to my home. While the price I would pay today for their bundled Internet, phone, and TV services would be less than I am currently paying for satellite TV (from DirecTV/AT&T) and bundled Internet and phone (from Sonic), I expect that to increase significantly once my sign-up deal expires in a couple of years. Once that happens, what options will I have if AT&T still hasn't rolled out faster Internet service to my community? If the only competitors to my home are AT&T and Comcast, I don't expect anything to change over the next couple of years.

Please do not remove one of the few things that provides choices for consumers like me. Please encourage more competition, not less.

Gregory Mohr